

HENDON SCHOOL

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'Learning Together Across the World'

8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 11 Expectations During the GCSE Examination Season

As you are aware, the GCSE examination season for Year 11 students has now begun. This is a crucial period for our students, and we would like to outline our expectations for attendance, punctuality, and conduct during the weeks leading up to the May half-term break.

From now until **Friday 22nd May**, which will be the students' **final day in school before May half term**, all Year 11 students are expected to attend school **as normal**, arriving **promptly at 8.30am each day**. Being **on time is essential**, particularly during the exam period, as late arrival can be unsettling for students and may affect preparation for examinations taking place that day.

It is extremely important that students **continue to come into school during this period**, even when they do not have an exam scheduled. Being in school allows students to:

- Take part in structured and supervised **revision and independent study**
- Receive **support and guidance from staff**, including last-minute clarification and reassurance
- Maintain a **focused routine**, which helps reduce anxiety and supports wellbeing
- Prepare effectively for upcoming examinations in a calm, exam-focused environment

Experience shows that students who attend school regularly during the exam season are better prepared, more confident, and more able to manage the demands of the GCSE timetable.

During this period, students must:

- Attend school **every day and be punctual**
- Arrive **on time for the 8.30am start**
- Wear **full school uniform**
- Bring **all required equipment**
- Bring **appropriate revision materials** so they can complete meaningful work when not in an examination
- Conduct themselves in a calm, focused, and mature manner to support a positive exam environment

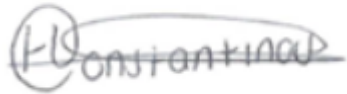
When students are not sitting an exam, they will remain in school completing revision or supervised study. This time is a valuable part of their preparation and should be treated with the same importance as lessons.

Following the **May half-term break**, students will **only be required to attend school for their scheduled GCSE examinations**. We ask that students arrive **in plenty of time** for each examination to ensure a smooth and settled start.

We appreciate your continued support in ensuring that students are **punctual, attend regularly, and are fully prepared** during this critical period. Working together will help ensure that every student has the best possible chance to achieve their potential.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ms Constantinou'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'C'.

Ms Constantinou
Director Key Stage 4